

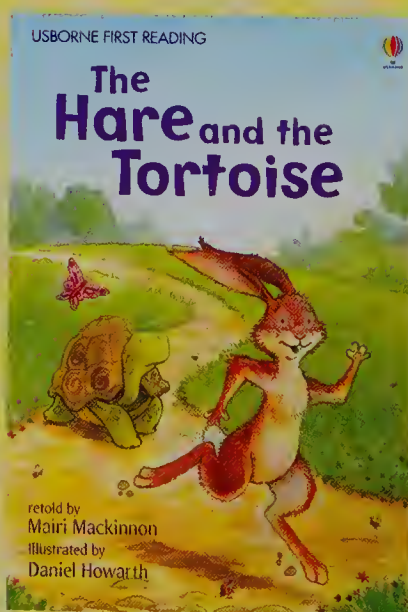
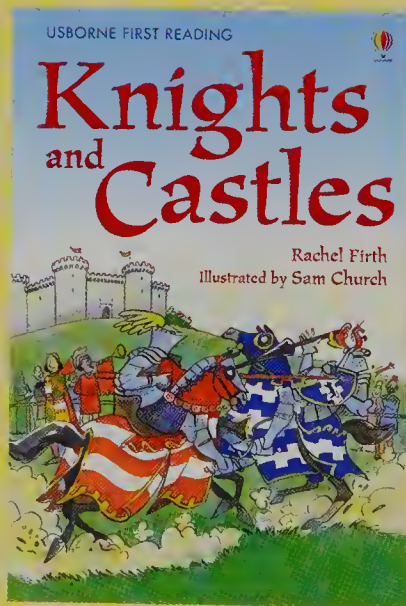
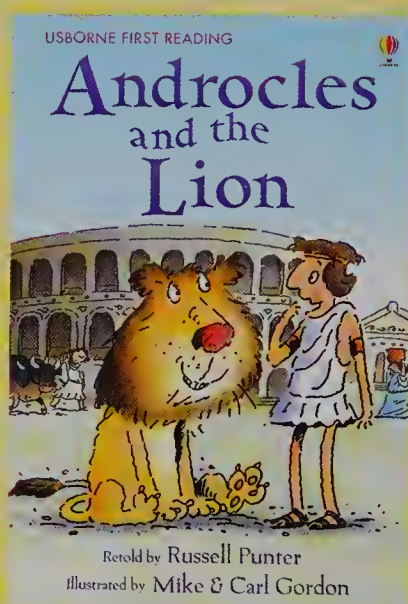
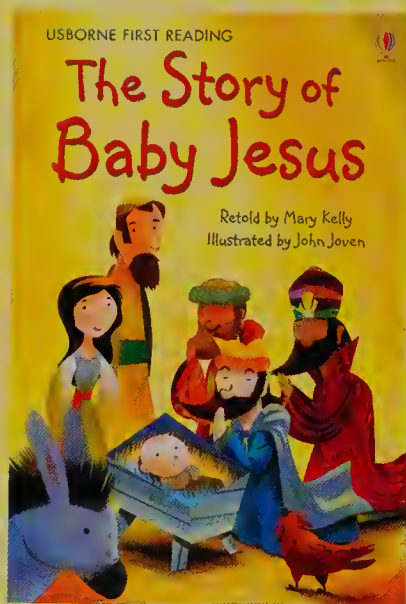
The Goose Girl



Retold by Russell Punter
Illustrated by Qin Leng

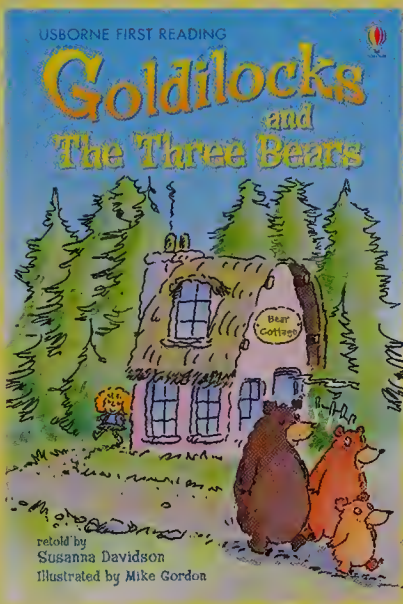
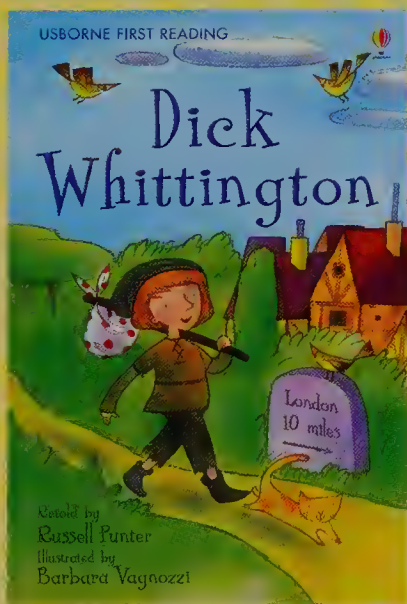
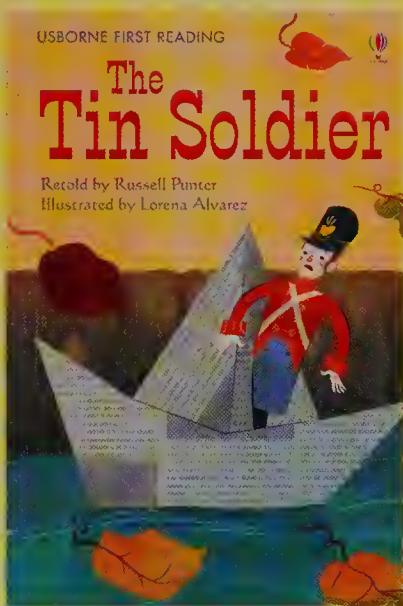
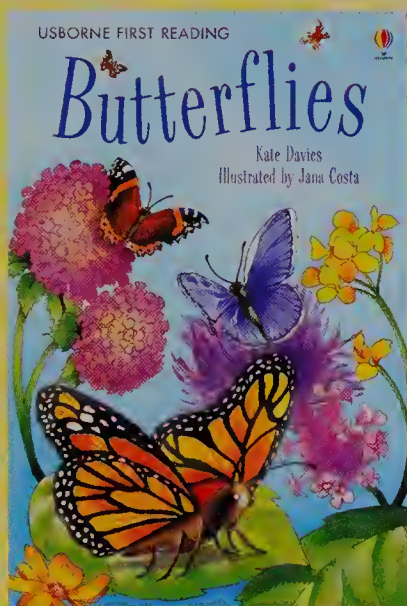
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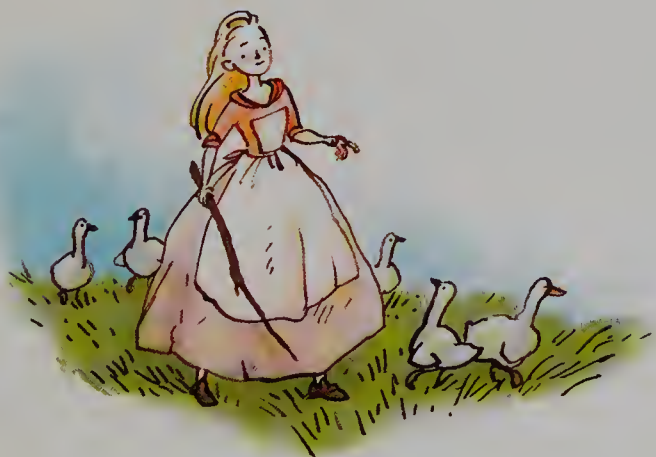
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The Goose Girl

Based on a story by
the Brothers Grimm

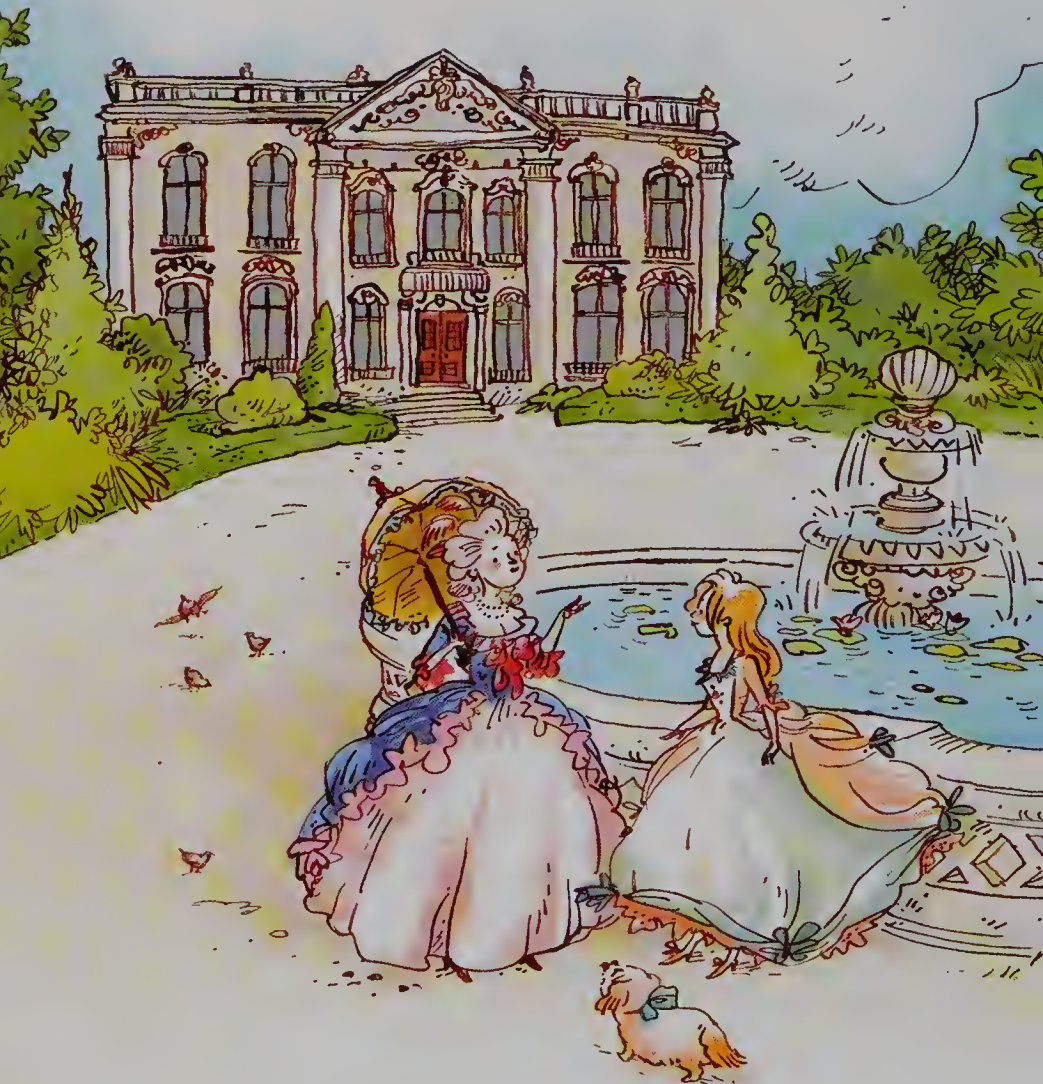


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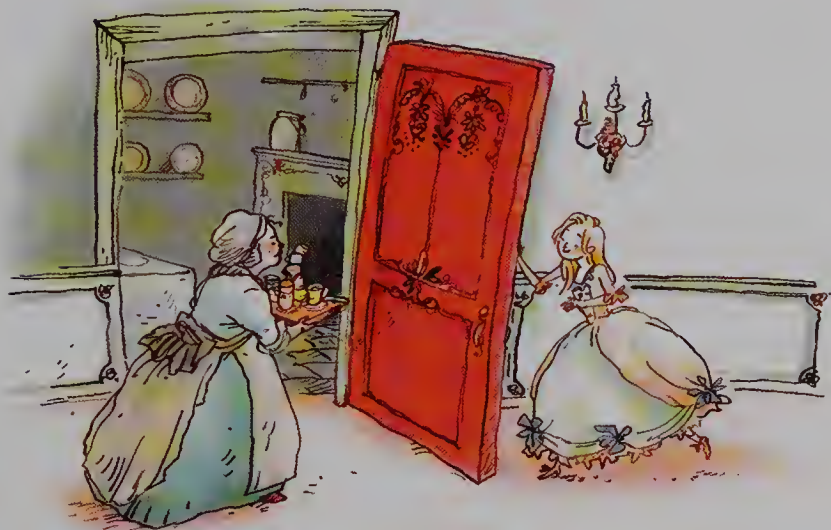
Illustrated by Qin Leng

Reading consultant: Alison Kelly
University of Roehampton

Once there was a queen, with
a daughter named Rose.



Princess Rose was helpful...

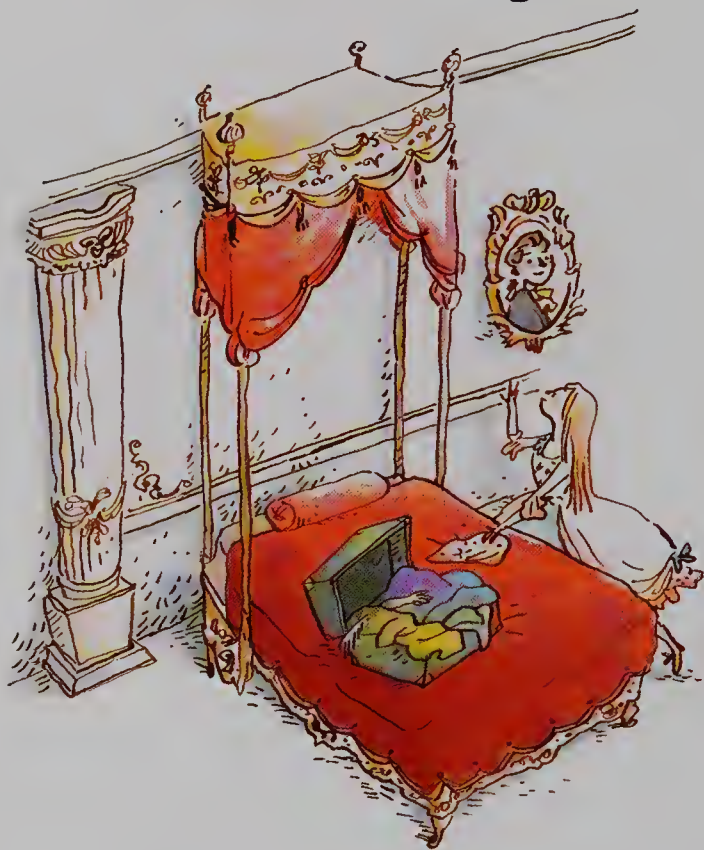


and kind...



and she *never* broke a
promise.

Rose had agreed to marry Prince Hal. He lived in a palace far, far away.



They had never even met. Today, she was going to visit him for the first time.

Before Rose left, her mother
gave her a magical gift.



It was a singing locket.

I can see all that you do.
It will be a friend to you.



“Promise you won’t lose it,” said the queen. “It will protect you.”

“I promise,” said Rose.

Princess Rose set off with
her maid, Grizelda.



Grizelda moaned and
groaned all the way.

“Giddy up, you silly nag,”
she yelled at her horse, Dobbin.



Rose was much kinder to
her horse, Falada.

He wasn't like
other horses...

Are you okay,
boy?

Fine thanks,
Princess.



Falada could talk!



Princess Rose and Grizelda
rode all day in the hot sun.
At last, they came to a river.



“I’m so thirsty, Grizelda,”
said Rose. “Please would you
get me some water?”



“Get your own!” snapped Grizelda, rudely.



But Grizelda hadn't packed Rose's cup. "I'll have to do without it," thought Rose.

So she lay down on the
hard ground to drink.



If your poor mother only knew,
It would break her heart in two.

When Princess Rose
stood up...



...her locket fell in the
river and floated away.

“I’m going to tell the queen
you lost the locket,” said
Grizelda, laughing.



“Please don’t do
that,” said Rose.
“I promised I’d
look after it.”

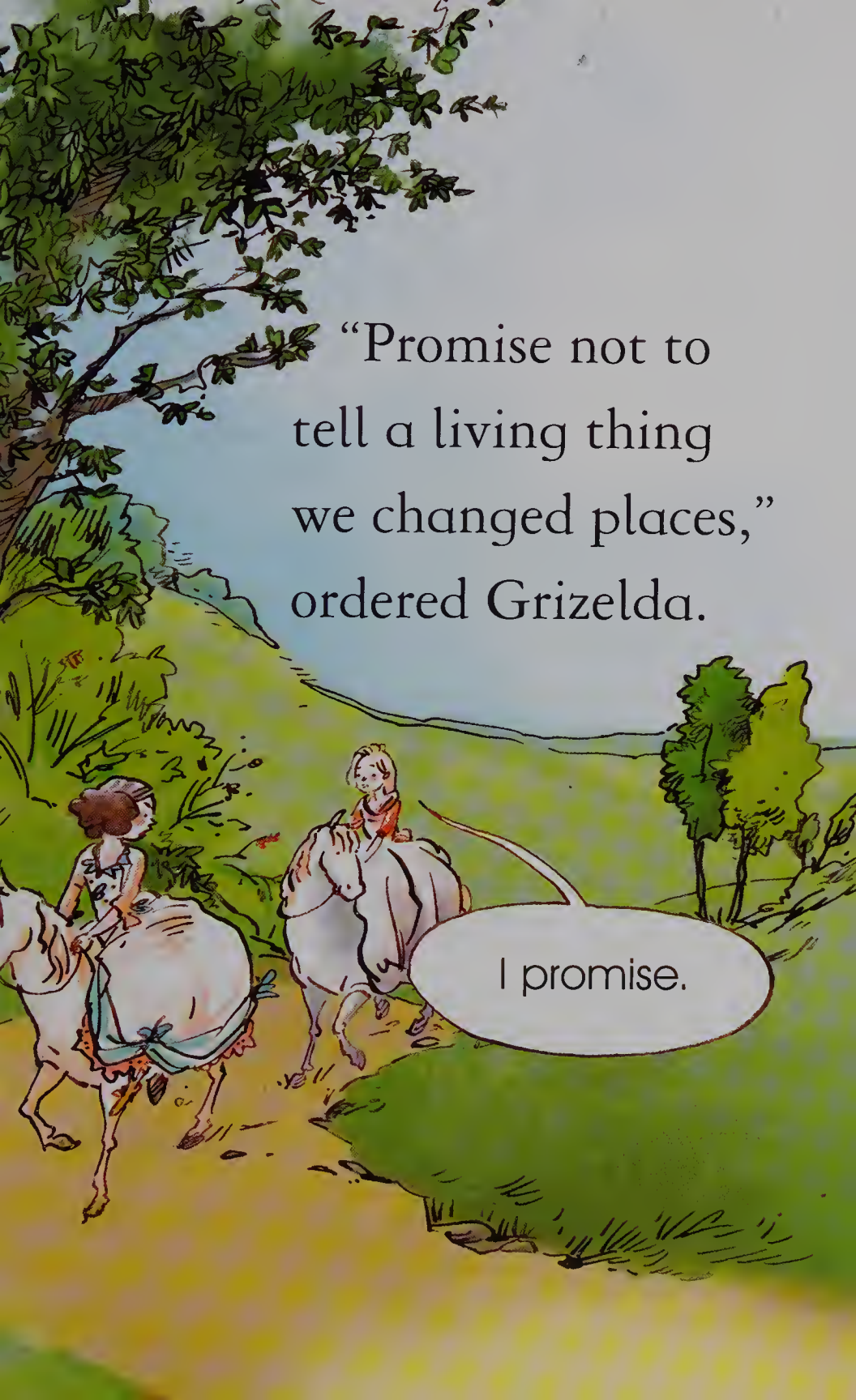


“Okay,” said Grizelda.
“But only if you change
clothes with me.”



So Rose swapped her pretty gown for Grizelda's scruffy old dress.



An illustration of two women riding horses through a green landscape. The woman on the left is seen from the back, wearing a white dress with a blue sash. The woman on the right is facing forward, wearing a red top. They are riding on a dirt path. In the background, there are green hills, a large tree on the left, and some smaller trees on the right. The sky is light blue.

“Promise not to
tell a living thing
we changed places,”
ordered Grizelda.

A white speech bubble with a black outline, containing the text "I promise." It is positioned in the lower right area of the illustration, near the woman on the right.

I promise.

Soon after, they arrived
at the prince's palace. Hal
rushed up to Grizelda.



“Princess Rose?” he said.
“Yes!” lied Grizelda.

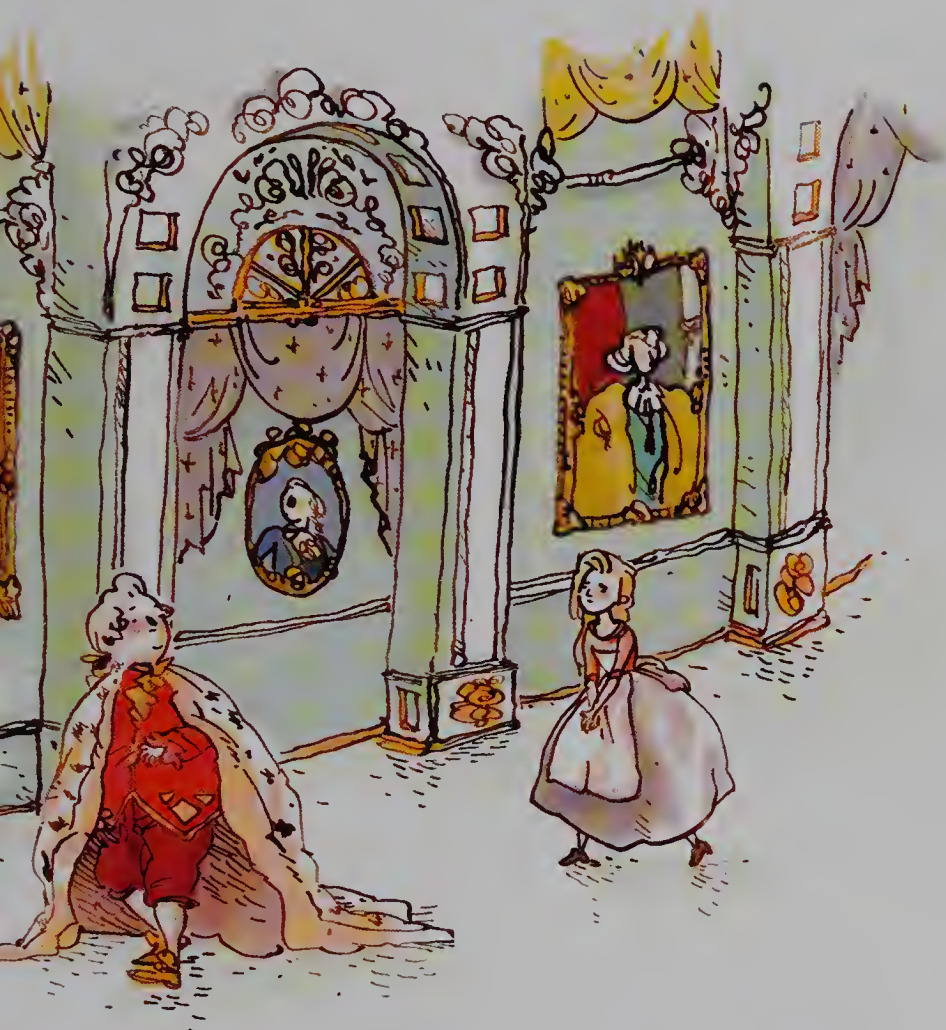


In the Great Hall, Hal's father, the king, smiled at Rose. "And who are you?" he asked.

“She’s my maid,” lied
Grizelda once again.



Rose wanted to tell the
king the truth...



but she couldn't break her
promise to Grizelda.

Grizelda looked out of the window at Falada.

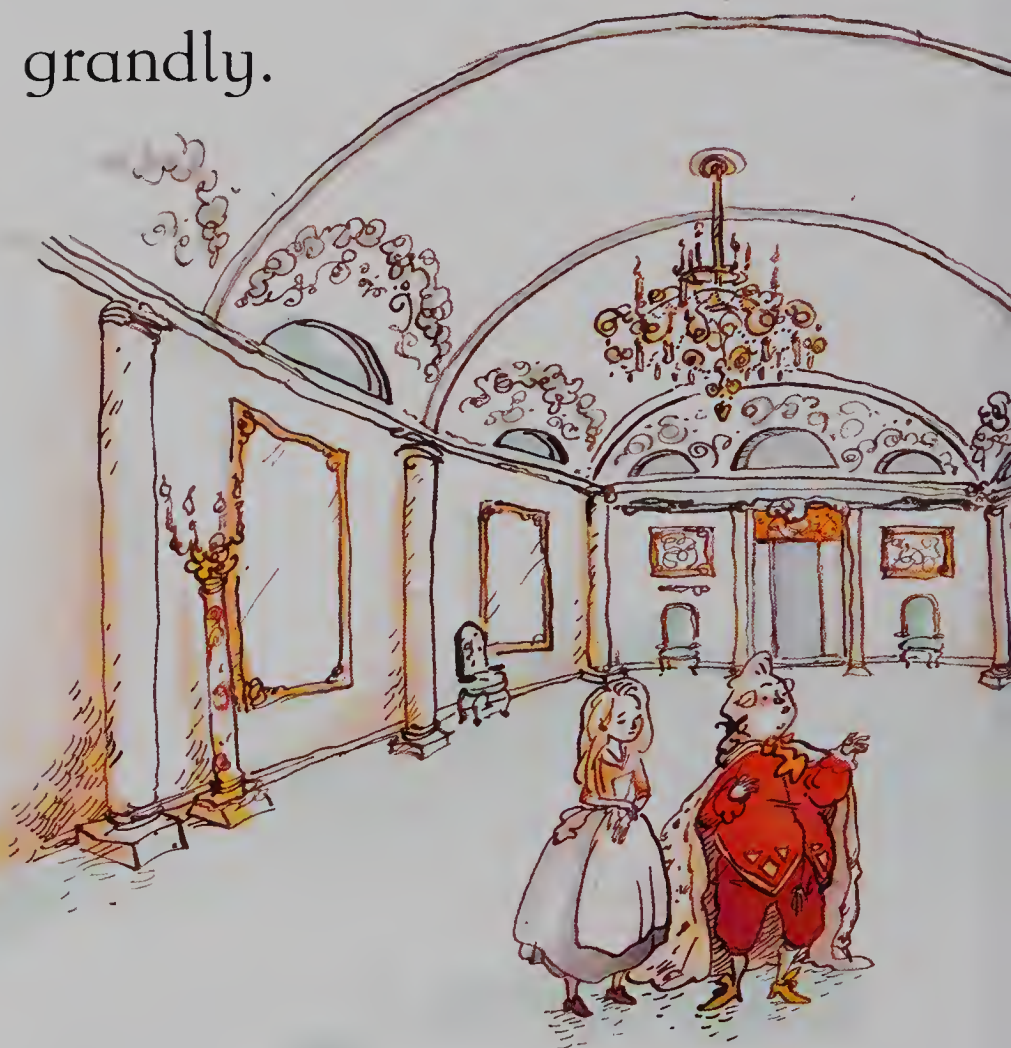


“That chatterbox might tell the prince who I really am,” she thought.

“My old horse is worn out,”
she said. “Get rid of him, Hal.”



“And find my lazy maid
some work,” Grizelda added,
grandly.



“She could help Conrad,”
said the king.

“He looks after the
royal geese.”



The next morning, Rose and Conrad took the geese to the meadow.



On the way, Rose saw
Falada tied up in a field.



“Poor Falada,” she cried.

“Poor Princess,” said Falada.

Conrad had never seen a talking horse before.



“Why did it call you ‘Princess’?” he asked.

“I can’t say,” said Rose.

At the meadow, Rose untied
her hair and began to brush it.



Conrad had never seen such
golden hair.



He tried to snatch a handful.
Rose quickly chanted a rhyme.

“Blow now, gentle wind I
say. Blow this goose boy’s
hat away.”



Conrad chased his hat
for miles.

When he returned, Rose
had tied her hair back.



That evening, Conrad went
to the king.

“Do I have to work with that odd girl?” he asked.



Conrad told him about the horse and his hat.

The next day, the king
followed Conrad and Rose.
He heard the talking horse...



...and he saw Conrad's
flying hat.

Blow now,
gentle wind...

Not again!



That evening, the king
looked for Rose. “Are you
really a princess?” he asked.



“I promised not to tell a
living thing,” sighed Rose.

“You could tell this cupboard,” said the king.



Rose climbed into the cupboard and told it her story.

The king heard everything.

It all began by
the river...



When Rose came out,
the king took her to the
palace maids.

They gave Rose
a bubble
bath...



they did
her hair...

...and they found
her a beautiful
dress to wear.



That night, there was
a royal feast.



The king sat Rose next to
Prince Hal. Then Grizelda
marched in.

She didn't recognize Rose.
"Who's that?" she snapped.



"First, I have a question for
you," said the king.

“How would you punish
someone who was cruel, rude
and told lies?”

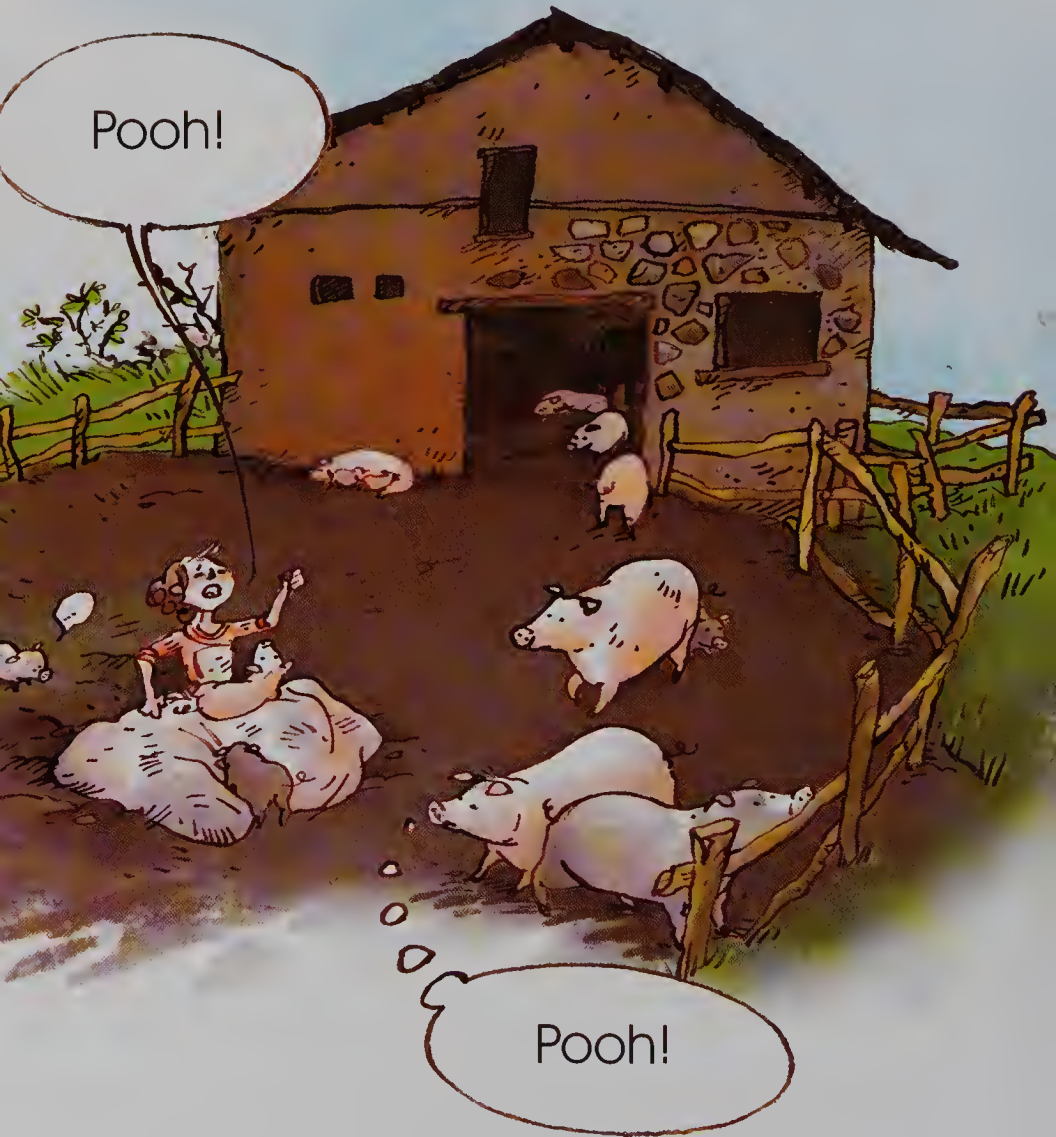


“Ha! I’d make them live
in a stinky pigsty,” said
Grizelda, with a grin.



“Then that’s what we’ll do
with you,” said the king.

So Grizelda got what
she deserved.



And Rose married Prince Hal
– as promised.

Hooray for Rose
and Hal!





The Goose Girl was first written down by two brothers, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, about two hundred years ago. The Grimm brothers lived in Germany and collected lots of folk tales.



Series editor: Lesley Sims

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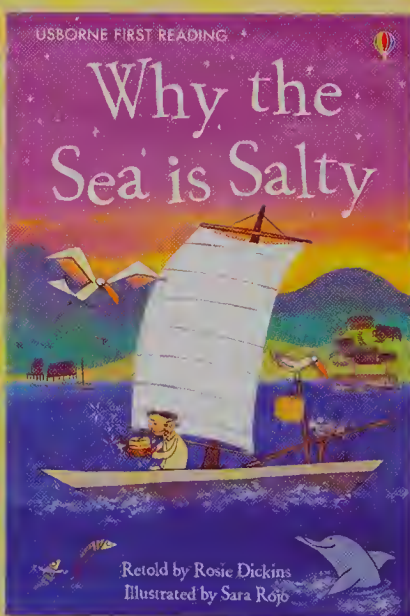
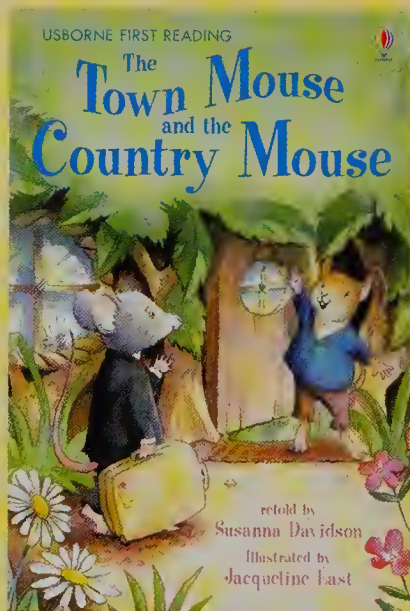
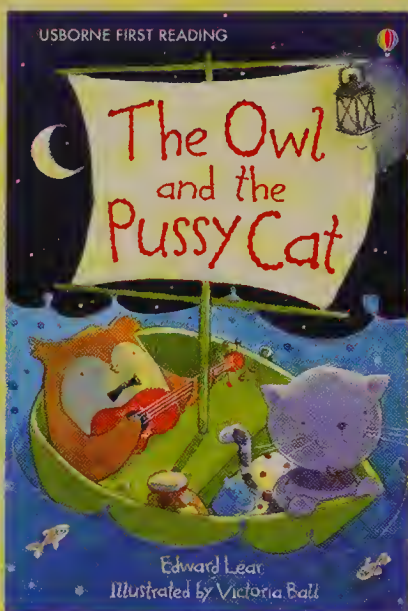
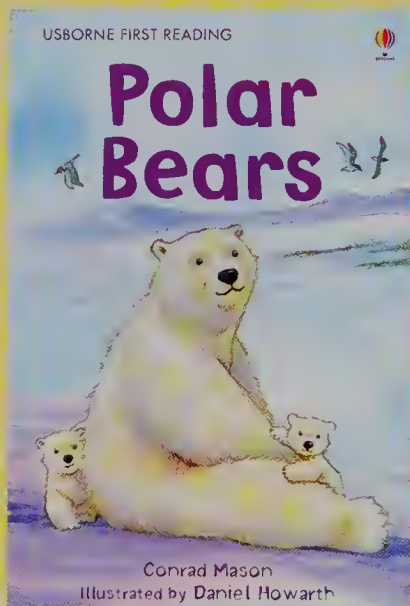
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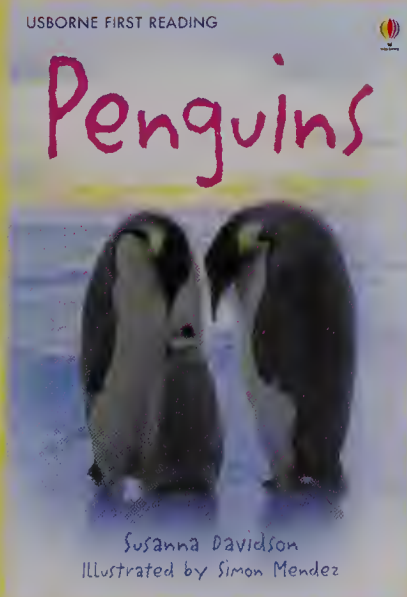
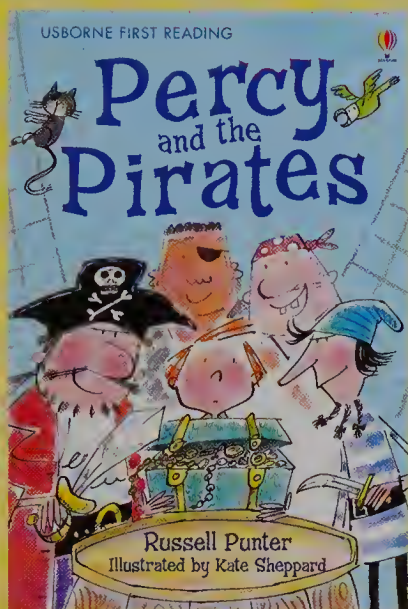
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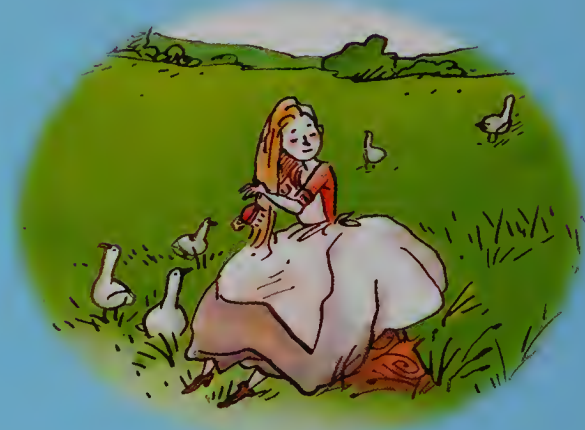
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The Goose Girl

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